

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the linear body with more specificity, including comprising a conductive polymer center electrode coated with an insulating film. See the specification in general for this disclosure, as well as the drawing figures including Figure 21. New claims have also been added and some of the previous claims amended. All of the claims read on the elected embodiment of Group I, an end face sensor.

Claim 9 has been amended responsive to the indefiniteness rejection.

Claim 9 has also been amended responsive to the §112, first paragraph rejection.

Claims 1, 7, 10, and 11 were rejected as anticipated by DOBLER 4,587,840.

Claim 8 was rejected as obvious in further view of IMAI 6,388,556.

Claims 1-3 were rejected as obvious over OSTERGARD 2003/0121976 in view of DOBLER.

Claims 1, 4, and 6 were rejected as obvious over EBATA 4,249,418 in view of DOBLER.

Claims 1, 5, and 6 were rejected as obvious over HARWOOD 4,343,688 in view of DOBLER.

No claims were indicated to be directed to allowable subject matter.

The amended and new independent claims are believed to be patentable over the prior art. None of these references teach the linear body comprising a conductive polymer center electrode coated with an insulating film. The references also do not disclose the further features recited by independent claims 39 and 40.

Applicant also notes that the teachings of IMAI, as to claim 8, are restricted to a pressure sensitive film and have no applicability to the other recited sensors claimed in the dependent claims.

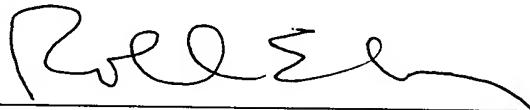
From the above, applicant believes it is clear that all of the claims are directed to allowable subject matter. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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